

STATE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REVIEW

1. Purpose

To provide Forum members with background information on the State Planning and Development Review. Michael O'Brien MP, Chair of the Review steering committee, is attending the meeting to address this topic.

2. Background

On 19 June 2007 the State Government announced the State Planning and Development Review. The Review will be directed by a small, independent steering committee, reporting to the Minister for Urban Development and Planning, Paul Holloway. It will take an intensive and wide-ranging look at the planning system, with a view to ensuring South Australia leads the nation in planning reform.

Michael O'Brien MP, Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier, has been appointed to chair the steering committee. The committee membership includes Michael Hickinbotham, Fiona Roche and Grant Belchamber from the Economic Development Board, Tim Jackson and Stuart Moseley from local government, and planning law expert Jamie Botten. The committee will engage additional expertise as required during the Review process.

The steering committee will report progressively to the Government during the course of the Review to ensure early adoption and implementation of recommendations for reform. It is expected the steering committee will complete its work by the end of this year.

The main objectives of the Review and the resulting reforms will be to:

- Realise a range of targets and objectives in South Australia's Strategic Plan;
- Establish South Australia as the most competitive place in Australasia in which to do business;
- Improve the performance, timeliness, certainty and accountability of the planning system – in both State and Local Government arenas; and
- Review the role and responsibilities of Planning SA and Local Government - within the overall planning system.

Overall, the State Planning and Development Review is expected to deliver a new wave of reform to build on the important planning system changes already being implemented in South Australia.

The Steering Committee has met with the LGA to discuss the approach being taken in the Review and, in particular, consultation with Councils.

3. Recommendation

That the Minister's State/Local Government Forum:

- 1. Notes the report and receives the presentation provided by Michael O'Brien MP.**